Calf Value Discovery Program

Demonstrating the Value of South Dakota’s Feeder Calves

A program enabling cow-calf producers to:

- assess the value of their cattle in value-based marketing systems
- gain valuable carcass and feedlot performance information to aid in management decisions and improve profitability

Entries must be received by: October 15, 2010

**HOW THE PROGRAM WORKS**

Producers consign minimum of five, 500 – 800 lb, steers to the CVD Program. Cattle will be fed in an accelerated finishing program at VanderWal Yards, Bruce, SD. The Cottonwood Experiment Station near Phillip, SD, will be designated as a collection point for interested producers. The Calf Value Discovery Program will provide transportation from the Cottonwood Station to VanderWal Yards.

Cattle will be weighed by SDSU personnel periodically and cattle owners will be sent performance updates and copies of their individual feed bills.

Feed, yardage and veterinary bills will be financed, and any death loss will be shared among all participants in the project.

Groups of cattle will be sold in truckload lots beginning approximately May 15. All cattle will be sold on a grid price system.

**PRE-SHIPPING MANAGEMENT**

The cattle **MUST** be dehorned, castrated and healed prior to feedlot arrival. Cattle that must be dehorned or castrated at the feedlot will be so processed at the owner’s expense.

**NOTE:** calves **DO NOT** need to be weaned or pre-conditioned to participate; however, we do ask that you let us know if the calves will be weaned or not prior to arrival. All calves will receive a full series of vaccinations and de-wormer treatment upon arrival at Vander Wal Yards.

**IMPORTANT:** We reserve the right to refuse any steers that are outside the weight range or that have not been dehorned, castrated and healed!!

**DATA PROVIDED**

- Feedlot performance
- Carcass data

**PROGRAM COSTS**

- $15/head registration fee
- Transportation to VanderWal Yards or to the Cottonwood Experiment Station (owner’s responsibility)

**SIGN-UP PROCEDURES**

Send completed participation form and a $15 per head, non-refundable deposit to:

Cody Wright, PhD
South Dakota State University
Box 2170
Brookings, SD  57007
(605) 688-5448

- Make checks payable to: SDSU Department of Animal and Range Sciences
- Entry deadline is **October 15, 2010**
- Cattle will be received at the Cottonwood Experiment Station between 8:00 am and noon MT on **November 1, 2010**
- Cattle will be received at VanderWal Yards between 8:00 am and 4:00 pm CT on **November 2 or 3, 2010**.